

AIRPORT HEIGHTS COMMUNITY COUNCIL
September 18, 2014 Minutes

Quorum: There was a quorum present.

Call to Order: John Whitlock called the meeting to order – A motion was made to accept the agenda and minutes from the previous meeting as published. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Assembly: Mayor Sullivan has provided the Assembly with his preliminary budget as required by Municipal Code. Highlights follow:

- o \$4 - \$6M budget shortfall.
- o Departments were requested to decrease budgets by 1%.
- o Although some departments have requested increases, the Mayor's budget should balance.
- o Additional \$3.1M that can be collected in taxes.
- o Overall, Mayor's 2015 budget "is targeted at reducing the growth in spending while minimizing service impact to the citizens."

The Assembly has a renewed Budget/Finance Committee chaired by Assembly Member Gray-Jackson. The Committee has a Work Plan with 12 purposes and a copy can be found on line. The Committee meets the third Thursday of each month from 12:00 – 1:00 in City Hall, Room 155.

The Assembly launched an Ad Hoc Committee on Alcohol and Substance Abuse. The mission is to "work with Municipal agencies, nonprofits, and private sector entities to identify cause and effect of alcohol and drug abuse amongst chronically homeless citizens..."

Legislative Report(s): Matt Moser (aid to Senator Ellis) announced that September is Hunger Action Month, that open enrollment for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will be occurring soon, and that Senator Ellis will be focusing on the basics (roads, schools, and public safety) during the next legislative session. Rep. Tarr mentioned that the Anchorage Parks Foundation list includes Tikishla Park and reported that a formal VIP committee has not been set up but suggestions can be offered.

DOWL/HKM report on Fire Station 3 project: They came to discuss the fire station 3 remodel. Many from the Cultural Charter School were in attendance for the presentation. There were concerns expressed about traffic on Bragaw. DOWL's record of this public meeting is attached to the notice sent out by the FCC.

Neighborhood Watch: Officer Natasha Welch gave a presentation on the Neighborhood Watch program. She recommended that Neighborhood watch groups establish "small, manageable" groups

Resolution 2014-05: A motion was made by Dick Snyder and seconded by Carolyn Ramsey to adopt a resolution regarding public safety (specifically police staffing and the posting of neighborhood watch signs around the neighborhood). The motion passed 18 in favor, 0 against, with 1 abstention.

Nominations: A nominations committee will be meeting regarding a new slate of officers for the coming year.

Unitarian Universalist Church: Sam Cason with the Unitarian Universalist Church announced that the Church (previously located in Turnigan) will be relocating to the green building.

Safeway Liquor License Transfer: Dick Rosston spoke on behalf of the petitioner (Kroger) regarding the transfer of its liquor license (this is an administrative process that has to occur due to a change in ownership). A motion was made and passed 20-0 to instruct the president to write a letter of non-objection regarding this transfer. (Mt. View took up this issue as well and passed a resolution of support with the condition that the AHCC non-oppose).

Community Concerns

Jack Fitzpatrick (of Alexander St) and Elvi Gray Jackson made the council aware of a community concern regarding winter parking along a section of Norene St. (the west side of the street between Alexander and 20th). Geran Tarr made a motion that was seconded and passed with 20 in favor with 0 opposed calling for a resolution supporting seasonal no parking signs along the west side of Norene St. between Alexander and 20th

AO37 – two citizens spoke about this upcoming vote, offered opinions, and asked questions.

Steve Dodge spoke about rezoning a piece of residential property – he was advised to consult with the neighbors regarding their position on a rezone and to keep in contact with the council regarding this issue.